General Assembly

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Agenda item 48

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/56/L.28 and Add.1)*]

56/37. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[1] and the progress report of the Secretary-General,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999 and 55/217 of 21 December 2000 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

Recalling also its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, on the mid-term review of the New Agenda, and its resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda, as well as chapter VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3]

Reaffirming that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[4] constitutes a priority that must remain high on the agenda of the United Nations system and Member States,

Reaffirming also that the General Assembly, as the chief policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations, must continue to play the primary role in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General and assessing the progress made,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen further the political will to ensure the political, financial, technical and other support critical for the effective implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General not only in the two thematic areas – education and conflict prevention and

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).
[2] A/56/371.
[3] See resolution 55/2.
[4] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

post-conflict peace-building – of the deliberations of the Working Group in 2001, but also in all the areas mentioned in the report,

Welcoming the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001, of the New African Initiative (now called New Partnership for Africa's Development),[5]

Mindful of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,[6]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[1] and the progress report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Notes with deep concern* that access to education at all levels in Africa remains low, despite the recognition that education plays a central role in conflict prevention and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development;

3. *Also notes with deep concern* that, while some efforts have been made in the prevention and settlement of conflicts, such efforts have not often brought positive results;

4. *Endorses* the recommendations entitled "Suggestions for further action and measures", contained in paragraphs 35 to 56 of the report of the Working Group;

5. *Decides* to suspend the activities of the Working Group during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly in order to consider further measures for the implementation and monitoring of initiatives on Africa, including the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, in the light of the forthcoming review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[7] and related initiatives, all of which should be guided by the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

6. *Invites* the Working Group to re-examine its mandate during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, including the most appropriate way to proceed with the deliberations of the Working Group as well as the scope and nature of its work;

7. *Decides* to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[4]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report, including concrete measures needed to

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[5] See A/56/457, annex I, AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXVII).

[6] See A/56/3, chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[7] See resolution 46/151, annex.

ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to the full and early implementation of the recommendations;

9. *Requests* that the Secretary-General designate the already established interdepartmental/inter-agency task force as the permanent focal point within the Secretariat mandated to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report, and also requests that the task force be strengthened with the necessary human, managerial and administrative resources effectively to carry out this task;

10. *Also requests* that the task force provide Member States, on an annual basis, with updated matrices indicating the current status of implementation of the various recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General.

74th plenary meeting
4 December 2001